

## Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

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R 131135Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9268

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

ZNE/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT POUCH

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

S E C R E T KUWAIT 1423

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UAE, MU

SUBJ: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT OF UAE

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT OF UAE SHAIKH ZAYID ENTHUSIASTICALLY DESCRIBED TO AMBASSADOR AND CHARGE GRIFFIN HIS PROJECTS FOR IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS OF HIS PEOPLE AND HIS PASSION FOR AGRICULTURE AND WATER. ON AREA AFFAIRS, HE WISHED SECRETARY KISSINGER QUICK SUCCESS ON GOLAN DISENGAGEMENT, SINCE ANY DELAY COULD JEOPARDIZE SADAT'S PROSPECTS FOR SURVIVAL. ELIMINATION OF SADAT WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC, HE ASSERTED. ZAYID ACKNOWLEDGED IMPORTANCE OF ARAB EFFORT TO END DHOFAR WAR. HE BELIEVES SULTAN QABUS IS COMING ALONG NICELY AS RULER OF OMAN. END SUMMARY

1. GRIFFIN AND I MET FOR HOUR AND HALF WITH PRES OF UAE SHAIKH ZAYID LATE EVENING APRIL 10 IN AL-AIN. ZAYID LOOKED WELL RESTED AFTER HIS VACATION IN PAKISTAN AND WAS IN BEST FORM WE HAD SEEN

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HIM IN OVER A YEAR. MUCH OF EARLY PART OF TALK TAKEN UP WITH HIS

ENTHUSIASTIC DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT EFFORTS DEVELOP PLANNED COMMUNITIES IN INTERIOR OF ABU DHABI. ZAYID SAID HE BELIEVED FIRMLY THAT COUNTRY WOULD DEVELOP IN MORE HEALTHY MANNER IF POPULATION ENCOURAGED TO REMAIN SPREAD OUT IN TRADITIONAL AREAS RATHER THAN ALL FLOCK TO BIG CITY. UAE PRES ALSO SPOKE OF HIS PASSION FOR AGRICULTURE AND WATER BOTH OF WHICH ENJOY HIGHEST PRIORITY IN PRESENT PLANNING FOR ABU DHABI. HE SAID HE WOULD SHORTLY BE DISTRIBUTING 100,000 NEW PALM SAPLINGS. ZAYID ALSO CONFIRMED HE WANTED US EXPERTS TO STUDY WATER RESOURCES AND POSSIBILITIES FOR DAM CONSTRUCTION IN NORTHERN UAE.

2. RE AREA AFFAIRS, ZAYID EXPRESSED GREAT PERSONAL PLEASURE AND RELIEF THAT US POSITION IN MIDEAST HAD BEEN DEMONSTRATED RECENTLY BEFORE THE ARABS TO BE SO MUCH MORE FAIR AND BALANCED THAN PREVIOUSLY. UAE HAD ALWAYS RECOGNIZED IMPORTANCE OF CLOSE RELATIONS WITH US, BUT WHEN US APPEARED OPPOSED TO ARAB INTERESTS, UAE IN NO RPT NO POSITION SHOW ANY SPECIAL OUTWARD GESTURE OF FRIENDSHIP. IN THIS DAY AND AGE, ZAYID ASSERTED, ARABS HAD TO STAND TOGETHER IN ORDER TO REMAIN CREDIBLE WITH EACH OTHER. PRESENT MIDEAST SITUATION, ZAYID WENT ON, LOOKED PROMISING: FROM HIS TALKS WITH SYRIANS HE HAD FIRM IMPRESSION PRESENT SYRIAN REGIME PREPARED COMPROMISE, TO EXTENT DEFENSIBLE AGAINST REGIME'S MANY ENEMIES, IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE SETTLEMENT ON GOLAN HEIGHTS. HOWEVER, HE FRANKLY WORRIED, HE SAID, ABOUT SURVIVABILITY OF SADAT WHOSE POSITION WOULD BECOME INCREASINGLY VULNERABLE UNTIL ISRAELI-SYRIAN UNDERSTANDING REACHED. ELIMINATION OF SADAT FROM SCENE WOULD BE BIGGEST DISASTER CONCEIVABLE. HE WISHED SECRETARY KISSINGER SPEEDIEST POSSIBLE SUCCESS IN ACHIEVING ISRAELI-SYRIAN DIS-ENGAGEMENT.

3. DURING LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF OMAN, ZAYID AGREED THAT DHOFAR WAR AND PDRY SUPPORT OF REBELS WAS SINGLE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM IN PENINSULA. HE ALSO AGREED WITH ME THAT ARABS SHOULD GET BUSY THEMSELVES AND RESOLVE RELATIONS BETWEEN PDRY AND OMAN; OTHERWISE THEY COULD EXPECT INCREASING INTERFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE AREA. ZAYID SAID HE FULLY AWARE THAT IF SUBVERSION SUCCEEDED IN OMAN, UAE WAS NEXT VICTIM ON WAY UP GULF. HE THEREFORE HAD PROVIDED BOTH MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID TO OMAN AND WAS PREPARED TO DO MORE. ATTENTION WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE PAID TO PDRY, AS KUWAIT HAD RECOGNIZED. ZAYID SAID AT LAHORE HE HAD TALKED TO SOUTH

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YEMENIS, CHIDING THEM ON ALLOWING ADEN TO BECOME CENTER FOR NEW "LEFTIST IMPERIALISM". WHEN SOUTH YEMENIS ARGUED THEY HAD HAD NO ALTERNATIVE TO ACCEPTING COMMUNIST AID, ZAYID SAID HE REPLIED THAT THIS ARGUMENT MIGHT HAVE HAD SOME VALIDITY WHEN ADEN FIRST BECAME INDEPENDENT -- A TIME WHEN ARAB OIL PRODUCERS NOT AS RICH AS NOW. IN 1974, HOWEVER, SAID ZAYID, THERE REALLY NO EXCUSE FOR NEEDY ARABS NOT SEEKING HELP FROM RICHER ONES, NOR FOR RICHER ONES NOT TO RESPOND GENEROUSLY.

4. AMONG DIFFICULTIES IN HELPING OMAN EFFECTIVELY WERE SULTAN QABUS' RETICENCE ABOUT ASKING FOR ASSISTANCE AND HIS OVER-DEPENDENCE ON BRITISH MERCENARIES WHO, ZAYID SUSPECTED, WERE INCLINED TO ADVISE QABUS NOT TO SEEK HELP FROM FELLOW ARABS ON THEORY COOPERATION FROM OTHERS IN AREA MIGHT LEAD TO LOSS OF THEIR PRIVILEGED POSITIONS.

5. I OBSERVED QABUS WAS YOUNG, RESERVED AND SOMEWHAT PROUD MAN--A LITTLE INCLINED TO VIEW MAKING REQUESTS OF HIS RICHER ARAB NEIGHBORS AS FORM OF BEGGING. MOREOVER, QABUS NOT ABOUT TO EXCHANGE PROVEN FRIENDS FOR THOSE WHO HAD NOT DONE MUCH MORE SO FAR THAN CRITICIZE HIM AND OMAN. ZAYID SAID THIS ATTITUDE UNDERSTANDABLE. ON OTHER HAND, QABUS SHOULD UNDERSTAND ALL GULF STATES NEEDED EACH OTHER, AND THAT ANY ASSISTANCE FROM UAE WAS GIVEN IN UAE INTERESTS. THERE NO QUESTION OF RICH MAN POOR MAN RELATIONSHIP. UAE ITSELF UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD NEED OMAN SOME DAY. IN ANY EVENT, ZAYID ADDED, HE THOUGHT QABUS HAD GROWN UP A GREAT DEAL DURING PAST YEAR AND WAS DOING INCREASINGLY GOOD JOB AS RULER OF OMAN. HE DESERVED--AND WOULD CONTINUE GET--HELP FROM THE UAE.  
STOLTZFUS

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